

## Take the opportunity!

*Be careful then how you live -not as unwise but as wise,  
making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.  
Ephesians 5:15-16*

Two little words found in the Greek translation of the New Testament make all the difference in these verses. Do you want to be wise? I know you do. Then we need to make the most of every opportunity. The Greek word here for opportunity is to redeem (buy back) or deliver the time.

These words do not refer to time in general. The Greek word for time here is *kairos*. It points to a special juncture in time, an opportunity. It looks at a moment when something is happening right before your eyes. There is a crisis either about to happen or actually happening. There is a person in need and you see them. It is like Peter and John when they were going to the Temple to pray. They had their agenda, but they saw a man in need. The text in Acts 3:4 actually says, "Peter looked straight at him..." And they made the most of that opportunity! This word refers to a moment full of possibilities quickly passing by, which we must be seize and make the best of before it passes by.

Wise people are people of opportunity. They have their spiritual, intuitive eyes open, ready for the moment. At any time today the Lord may open a door of opportunity to you and wonderful things will happen. That's why Paul says previously in this passage, "Wake up oh sleeper." We will all hit a *kairos* moment, the moment of potential breakthrough. Will we be awake, aware to see it? It is intimated in the verses above that there are specific moments of opportunity that will be missed because the days are evil. The enemy is prowling about distracting our attention. Like flowers that appear for a season and are gone, these special moments come and go. We can see them and pluck them or pass them by unaware. They are like the business opportunity that comes but because of fear of risk the possible fortune is lost. You need to buy up for yourself every opportunity. You need to deliver yourself from complacency and get ready. The Lord is near. He is not far off but you are not seeing and seizing the opportunity that He brings. You continue to cry out, "Lord, I want to see you move in my life. I want you to use me." And He does, but you cannot see and thus miss the moment of usefulness.

Jesus saw the woman at the well as an opportunity. It was *kairos*. He spoke prophetically into her life. The busy disciples came back from buying food and saw him at work. "Jesus, what are you doing? Eat, rest!" "My food is to do my Father's will and finish his work," Jesus tells them in John chapter four. Jesus saw a moment that the Father created for His glory and the result was that this woman went and got the entire village and they believed in Him. Wow! *Kairos*! Sometimes *kairos* is a moment when someone will get saved by your testimony, sometimes *kairos* is an opportunity to pray for someone and they will get healed. We ask why we don't see more healing and the Spirit answers, "Because you miss the *kairos*!" VICTORY lies in these moments. Will you be wise in an evil generation and make the most of *kairos*? Ask the Lord today to use you and then keep your eyes open. Seize, redeem, deliver the moment and see first hand His power released through you.

